

HAMPTON VA

NEWS RELEASE

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Robin McCormick | rmccormick@hampton.gov | 757-728-3276
22 Lincoln Street | Hampton, VA 23669

Hampton police get funds for technology upgrades

Dec. 20, 2013 – The Hampton Police Division will get major technology and security upgrades, thanks to \$344,571 in asset forfeiture money from the state.

Hampton Police Sgt. J. T. Harrison said more than half of the money will be used to purchase faster and more reliable in-car, desktop and laptop computers. In addition, the state money will be used to replace aging servers, software and backup equipment.

“This will bring the police division to a technology level that will increase safety and systems security, and provide mobile information faster, more reliably and more efficiently,” Harrison said.

The rest of the state funds will boost undercover operations, building security, and to replace an aging vehicle that carries the dive team and its gear for underwater searches.

The money comes from the state attorney general’s office, after a Medicaid fraud investigation of Abbott Labs in 2012. According to a press release, Attorney General Ken Cuccinelli plans to share \$105 million of the \$115 million with state and local law enforcement.

Thomas Nelson Community College, which has its main campus in Hampton off Butler Farm Road, received \$266,558 so its Police Department could purchase equipment to allow its officers to connect with the Hampton police, as well as police in Williamsburg, where it has another campus.

The awards announced this week amount to \$33 million across the state. Other regional police departments receiving funds include: Newport News, \$144,112; Norfolk, \$175,004; Poquoson, \$90,569; and Suffolk, \$80,320.

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